

Regular Session, 2005

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 36

BY SENATOR MARIONNEAUX

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences upon the death of Private First Class David P. Burridge.

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to the family of United States Marine Corps Private First Class David P. Burridge upon his death in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

WHEREAS, it is with the deepest regret and most profound sorrow that the Senate has learned of the tragic and untimely death in combat of Private First Class Burridge; and

WHEREAS, Private First Class Burridge was a native of Lafayette and a 1998 graduate of Lafayette High School who was known by his teachers as a generous and caring student, once giving his entire paycheck as well as his monthly allowance to a fund-raising drive for a fellow student who was diagnosed with leukemia, shocking not only his teachers but his friends as well; and

WHEREAS, Private First Class Burridge's parents, George and Yvette Burridge, also remember his concern and sensitivity toward others, saying, "they only make a few special kids and he was one, he was always a good kid, the kind you wish, in all the world, that he would be here a long, long time"; and

WHEREAS, Private First Class Burridge had always dreamed proudly of serving his country, subsequently, months after getting out of high school he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, feeling that as a Marine he could not only serve his country but join

1 in its war on terror; and

2 WHEREAS, Private First Class Burrridge ultimately was assigned to Headquarters
3 Battalion, 1st Marine Division, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force operating in the infamous
4 Sunni Triangle of Death in Al Anbar Province, known as a stronghold of terrorists and
5 remnants of Saddam Hussein's loyal followers; and

6 WHEREAS, Private First Class Burrridge distinguished himself in the Iraqi Theater
7 of Operation through his dedicated and disciplined service, always placing the welfare of his
8 fellow Marines above his own needs and interests and soon becoming as well thought of by
9 the men in his unit as he had been back in his old community in Lafayette; and

10 WHEREAS, Private First Class Burrridge was only 19 years old when he was part of
11 a patrol that encountered and engaged in a furious firefight with a heavily-armed terrorist
12 force in Al Anbar Province on September 6, 2004; and

13 WHEREAS, it was during this ground combat that Private First Class Burrridge was
14 struck down in a hail of enemy fire and was mortally wounded; and

15 WHEREAS, while the loss of Private First Class Burrridge was almost more than his
16 family and friends could endure and his ultimate sacrifice for this country caused the citizens
17 of his community to rally in support of his family and his patriotic service in his nation's war
18 on terror; and

19 WHEREAS, Private First Class Burrridge will be forever remembered by his family,
20 friends and fellow Marines as someone that could be counted on in a tough situation and his
21 sacrifice further serves as a reminder that freedom can come with a very high price and
22 Americans may have to fight to protect the freedoms and liberties it citizens now enjoy.

23 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
24 does hereby express a profound sense of loss and sends its heartfelt condolences from a
25 grateful state and nation to the family of United States Marine Corps Private First Class
26 David P. Burrridge for fighting America's enemies.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
28 parents, Yvette and George Burrridge, of Private First Class David P. Burrridge.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Heyward Jeffers.

DIGEST

Expresses condolences upon the death of U.S. Marine Corps Private First Class David P. Burridge.